GOTHIC, now a serial in BAY GUARDIAN will be collected in a book later in the year.* Ted Richards' MELLOW CAT, running in SKATEBOARDER, will be a 48 page color book.* HOT STUF' continues to showcase both over and underground talent. #7 has the conclusion of Bil Maher's bizarre HORNAMANIA (panel lower left). Ernie Colon's MANIMAL is a more realistic version of the HULK. Issues 4-8 are still available from Sal Q Productions, 770 East 45th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11203. $2.50 pp ea.* To your right is the cover of the latest 8-pager in the Comix World mini-series, FRIED BRAINS. (50¢ and a stamp from me). Like BABYFAT, the book contains illustrated weird news items and satire. Artists include: Gary Whitney, Brad Foster, Jamie Alder, and Brad Castor.* THE SPECTATOR for Jan. 25-31, contains a piece on R. Crumb & a lot of reprinted Crumb art. The Cheap-Suit Serenaders have a third album out on the Yazoo label.* See that box of Cheerios on Ma Kent's table? Should have been Kellog's PEP! Would Superboy eat junk food?* Meanwhile, Guy Colwell has returned to England to paint.* Stay high. -Clay Geerdes

FRIED BRAINS
GOD IS GREAT GOD IS GOOD LET US THANK HIM FOR OUR FOOD, A-MEN.
TRAVOLTA EATS IT!
(SPAGHETTI DINNER at the WHITE HOUSE)

COMIX WORLD 113. February 1, 1979. Copyright Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707. World Rights Reserved. Valentine logo by John Valandingham. Sub rates: $6 for 24. $10 for 48.* You'll find a rather unusual interpretation of the character of Santa Claus in Christmas Comics #1, a large-sized 8-pager by Valentino, who is editor of this year's San Diego Con Program book. He has 31 copies of 100 signed and numbered left for sale at $2 and 100 unsigned at $1. 120 Penn Avenue, San Diego, CA 92103. This year's Con is August 2. Progress Report from P. O. Box 17066, San Diego CA 92117.* A lot of ug folks are going down to the Fantasy Symposium at the San Jose Convention Center, Feb 15-18. I'll be at the Holiday

Inn there on the 15th & 16.* Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre is doing a piece on Griffith's Zippy. Watch for it if you're in the area.* Trina has a strip in March PLAYBOY. Her SAN FRANCISCO

Known to most of you through his beautiful DOPE RIDER stories in HIGH TIMES, Paul Kirchner will have a 16 page story in the fifth issue of IMAGINE. "A Sprig of Thaxon" is a sensitive tale of a wizard who gets what he wants at the expense of a demon. Kirchner is 26. He lives outside New Haven, Connecticut. His work has appeared in National SCREW, APPLE PIE, the New York TIMES, VILLAGE VOICE, CRAWDADDY, CHERI, and L'ECHO DES SAVANES. He worked with Tex Blaisdell on the last months of LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE and has assisted Wally Wood from time to time since 1974. Some of his eight-page horror stories have appeared in Marvel, D-C, and Charlton comics. With IMAGINE 5 and STAR*REACH 16, publisher Mike Friedrich is shifting to magazine format. His current printer, a Sacramento firm, has failed to deliver books on time, which is why you haven't seen STAR*REACH 15 or IMAGINE 4 or Comics and Comix/Bud Plant's latest volume of Jack Katz' FIRST KINGDOM.

Lewd Mickey Mouse Loses

Washington

The Supreme Court preserved yesterday both the honor of Mickey Mouse and a copyright infringement ruling won by Walt Disney Productions against bawdy comic book producers.

The justices let stand a lower court ruling that Disney's copyrights were infringed upon by three "counter-culture" comic books depicting Mickey and other popular cartoon characters having sex, swearing and taking drugs.

In a brief order, the court turned down appeals by cartoonists who said their parodies of Disney characters were "fair use" of copyrighted material and did not reduce its potential commercial market value.

The case stems from two comic books called "Air Pirate Funnies," under the label Hell Comic, and a third called "The Tortoise and the Hare." Both portray Disney characters in uncharacteristic activities.

Mickey and Minnie Mouse, for instance, make love in one scene, and Minnie uses coarse language.

Disney sued cartoonists Dan O'Neill and Bobby London and others involved in the "underground" comic books, of which about 60,000 copies were distributed around 1971.

One commentator called the books "a rather bawdy depiction of the Disney characters as active members of a free-thinking, promiscuous, drug-ingesting counter-culture" which was "clearly antithetical to the accepted Mickey Mouse world of scrubbed faces, bright smiles and happy endings."

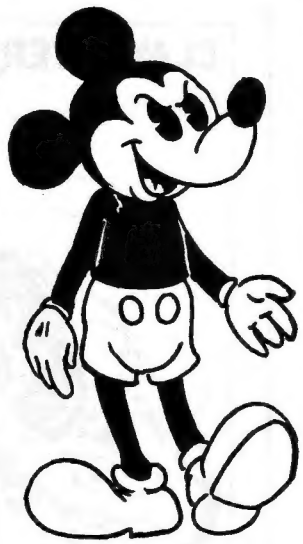
U.S. District Judge Albert Wollenberg in San Francisco ruled in Disney's favor in 1975, and $180,000 in damages was assessed for copyright infringement.

The U.S. Court of Appeals affirmed the copyright infringement decision last September.

The appeals court said the cartoonists' defense that their parodies were "fair use" of copyrighted material failed because they drew the Disney characters in more exact likenesses than necessary to get their point across.

"The desire of a parodist to make the best parody must be balanced against the rights of the copyright owners and his original expression," that court said. "The balance is struck at giving the parodist what is necessary to conjure up the original."

United Press

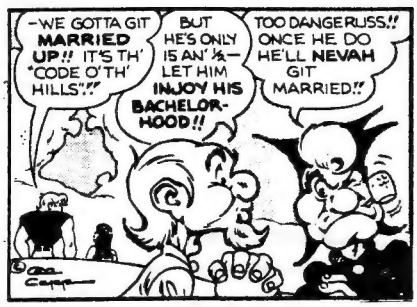


©AL CAPP. 1978.

THE BEST OF LI'L ABNER. Al Capp. $7.95. New York. Holt, Rinehart & Winston. © Capp Enterprises, Inc. 1978.

"My politics didn't change. I had always been for those who were despised, disgraced, and denounced by other people. That was what had changed. Suddenly it was the poor working bastard who was being denounced. He had always worked, his wife had always worked, his kids worked. At some point they bought a house in the suburbs. It was from his paycheck that the billions for welfare came. He never complained about it. But why were others complaining about him? He was never a silent generation; he was a bewildered one. I knew that it would be terribly unsmart to say anything in his defense. But I knew that if I remained silent, I would die as a satirist. A satirist has only one gift: he sees where the fraud and fakery are. I turned around and let the other side have it."

-Al Capp, 1978.


-WE GOTTA GIT MARRIED UP!! IT'S TH' "CODE O'TH' HILLS"!!
BUT HE'S ONLY 15 AN' I'LL LET HIM INJOY HIS BACHELOR-HOOD!!
TOO DANGEROUS!! ONCE HE DO HE'LL NEVAH GIT MARRIED!!

©AL CAPP. 1978

Where are you going to find a world populated by fatoceroses and shmoos and the only living Hammus Alabammus? Dogpatch, that's where, a mythic little mountain community that was known to nearly everybody by the end of the 1930s (It began in 1934 as the home of LI'l Abner Yokum.). THE BEST OF LI'L ABNER reprints 26 episodes from the dailies, beginning with the wedding of Abner to Daisy Mae, an event most of the population never expected to happen, Abner being the devout bachelor he was--after all, how could a mere gal like Daisy Mae compare with Mammy's porkchop suppers? Re-reading this material that I remember so well from my childhood, I'm surprised to see how well it holds up. Most of the satire is as appropriate to 1979 as it was to 1939, particularly the images of capitalism and monogamy.

Capp took on everything, working with two men who are named for the first time in his introduction to this new collection--Andy Amato and Harvey Curtis. It was Capp who used a lot of the techniques that were later to be found in the Kurtzman-Elder satires on the comics in MAD COMICS. He didn't originate them, because he was coming from the styles of Goldberg and Segar and McManus, but he refined and elaborated on a lot of these cartoon techniques. Mammy Yokum (based on Capp's own mother, he says in his introduction) bears a strong physical resemblance to Popeye and she certainly fulfills the same aggressive function in the strip. The Yokums were obviously the models for Ma and Pa Kettle (from the novel The Egg and I) and the entire Dogpatch world certainly foreshadowed the Beverly Hillbillies. The women are dominant in Capp with the exception of Daisy Mae who is kind of a wimp. It's Mammy Yokum who saves the National Honor with her "Goodnight Irene" punch when America is threatened by the femacho stance of Boomchik from Russia. And on Sadie Hawkins' Day in November, it's the women who do the chasing and the men who run. Capp seems in agreement with Ardrey who proposed in AFRICAN GENESIS that women do the courting and the choosing though they make it seem like men are doing it. It's always amazed me that Abner could hang around women like Daisy Mae and Moonbean McSwine and Stupefyin' Jones without every getting the slightest bit horny. How come no sexual desire? Ah, Great stuff, Al.

LOOK!!--IN TODAY'S PAPER, FEARLESS FOSDICK PROPOSED, AN' PRUDENCE PIMPLETON ACCEPTED!!
HAW!!--IT DON'T MEAN NOTHIN'!! IT'S TH' USUAL COMICAL STRIP TRICK, T'KEEP STUPID READERS EXCITED!!
BE THAT AS IT MAY, BROTHER YOKUM--I'D TOOK A OATH T'DO WHUTEVER FOSDICK DOES!!

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